Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Message Text

PAGE 01 SANTIA 05277 280023Z

64
ACTION H-03

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 SS-07 AID-01 NSC-06 NSCE-00

SSO-00 RSC-01 DRC-01 /030 W
---------- 098526
O 272205Z OCT 73
FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6357

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANTIAGO 5277

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y FOR MRN (5277 VICE 6357)

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: CI, OREP
SUBJ: CODEL HARRINGTON

1. SUMMARY: DURRING COURSE OF TWO DAY STAY IN SANTIAGO CONGRESSMAN HARRINGTON MET WITH THREE MEMBERS OF MILITARY JUNTA AND VISITED THE NATIONAL STADIUM BUT DID NOT TOUR IT OWING TO A DIFFERENCE IN INTEREPATION ON OF JUNTA'S INVITATION TO HIM TO DO SO. CONGRESSMAN'S SUBSTANTIVE CONTACT WITH EMBASSY WAS SLIGHT.

2. I ACCOMPANIED CONGRESSMAN HARRINGTON TO A MEETING FRIDAY WITH 3 OF 4 MEMBERS OF RULING MILITARY JUNTA. PRESENT WERE ADM. MERINO, AIR FORCE GEN. LEIGH AND CARABINERO
(NATIONAL UNIFORMED POLICE) GENERAL MENJVNM. FOURTH JUNTA MEMBER GENERAL PINOVHET WAS OUT OF SANTIAGO. ALSO PRESENT WERE FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICER GUZMAN AND ONE OR TWO OTHER MILITARY OFFICERS. JUNTA PRESS SPOKESMAN FEDERICO WILLOUGHBY.

3. HARRINGTON BEGAN NEARLY TWO HOUR INTERVIEW BY STATING THAT HIS MAIN QUARREL WAS NOT WITH NEW MILITARY GOVT BUT WITH U.S.G. POLICY TOWARDS CHILE OVER LAST 3 YEARS. HE CHARACTERIZED POLICY AS UNWISE AND MISTAKEN AND STATED IT SERVED AS CONTRIBUTING FACTOR PROMOTING FAILURE OF DEMOCRATICALLY ELECTED ALLENDE GOVT.

4. ADM. MERINO RESPONDED THAT ALLEND'S FALL WAS PRODUCT OF HIS OWN MISMANAGEMENT AND VIOLATION OF CHILEAN CONSTITUTION. MERINO CITED CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 SANTIA 05277 280023Z

PRE-COUP STATEMENTS OF SUPREME COURT AND AUG. 22 CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES RESOLUTION TO BOLSTER POINT CONCERNING ALLENDE'S GOVT'S "ILLEGITIMACY".

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

5. CONGRESSMAN STATED SAME TYPE OF EXECUTIVE BRANCH MISUSE OF CONSTITUTIONAL POWERS TAKING PLACE IN U.S. HE THEN ENTERED INTO LONG DISCUSSION OF PRESIDENTIAL IMPOUNDMENT OF CONGRESSIONALLY APPROVED EXPENDITURES IN U.S. CONGRESSMAN'S ULTIMATE POINT WAS THAT DESPITE SIMILARITY OF PROBLEMS, U.S. CONGRESS NOT ADVOCATING MILITARY COUP.

6. MERINO REGRETTED CONGRESSMAN HAD NOT VISITED CHILE PRIOR TO SEPT. 11 NOR WOULD BE ABLE TO STAY ANY LONGER ON THIS TRIP TO BETTER ACQUAINT HIMSLLF WITH REALITY OF CHILEAN SCENE WHICH WAS QUITE UNLIKE U.S. HE THEN WENT ON TO EXPLAIN GREAT RELUCTANCE OF MILITARY TO INTERVENE INTO NATION'S POLITICAL LIGE AND ARGUED THAT COUP WAS MANNER TO SAVE NATION FROM ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL CHAOS.

7. GEN. LEIGH TOOK ISSUE WITH CONGRESSMAN'S REMARK TO EFFECT THAT LEI
GH
HAD PUBLICLY STATED THAT MILITARY WOULD HAVE TO MAINTAIN CENTRAL OF CHILEAN GOVT. FOR 5 TO 10 YEARS. LEIGH STATED TPAT HE HAS COMMENTED THAT IT WILL TAKE AL LEAST 3 YEARS TO RIGHT NATION'S ECONOMY BUT HAS NEVER PUBLICLY ADDRESSED QUESTION OF HOW MANY YEARS JUNTA WILL RULE.

8. MERINO MENTIONED ISSUE OF MARXIST INFLUENCE IN SCHOOLS AND ASSERTED THAT UNDER NEW GOVT. CHILDEREN WILL BE TAUGHT TO THINK AND NOT BE INDOCTRINATED. CONGRESSMAN RESPONDED THAT SEARCH OF HOME OF AMCIT FRANK MANITZAS IN WHICH LEFTIST BOOKS HAD BEEN TAKEN AWAY BY POLICE DID NOT INDICATE TO HIM FREEDOM OF THOUGHT WAS BEING RESPEC
TED.

9. MERINO RESPONDED THAT JUNTA WAS AGAINST MARXIST SPECIFICALLY BUT NOT LEFTISE THOUGHT GENERALLY AND REMARKED THAT ENTIRE CHILEAN POLITICAL SPECTRUM WAS CONSIDERABLY TO LEFT OF THAT OF U.S.

10. IN CLOSING STATEMENTS MERINO AND LEIGH POINTEDLY TOOK ISSUE WITH CONGRESSMAN BUT KEPT THEMSELVES UNDER CONTROL. BOTH REFERRED TO DEDICATION OF MILITARY OFFICERS TO TRUTH AND HONESTY.

11. CONGRESSMAN'S LAST STATEMENT WAS THAT HE HAD BEEN TRYING TO ARRAN
CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 SANTIA 05277 280023Z

GE
FOR TOUR THROUGH NATIONAL STADIUM WHERE PRISIONERS BEING HELD BUT THAT MININTERIOR BONILLA WAS ATTEMPTCNG TO AVOID RETURNING MY CALL SO THAT I WOULD NOT HAVEOPPORTUNITY TO OBTAIN NECESSARY PERMISSION. I INTERJECTED THAT I DID NOT BELIEVE THIS WAS THE CASE. I NOTED THAT I HAD BEEN OUT OF MY OFFICE A GOOD PART OF THE DAY WHICH PROBABLY MADE IT DIFFICYLT FOR THE MINISTER TO RETURN MY CALL. AND WHICH INCIDENTALLY HAD ALSO PREVENTED ME FROM CONVERSING WITH CONGRESSMAN HARRINGTON PRIOR TO OUR MEETING WITH THE JUNTA.

12. MERINO IMMEDIATELY RESPONDED THAT THE GONGRESSMAN WAS FREE TO VISIT THE STADIUM AND VIEW ALL SECTIONS OF IT. AN APPOINTMENT WAS SET FOR HARRINGTON TO MEET WITH WILLOUGHBY AND STADIUM COMMANDER ESPINOZA

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

AT 7:30 SAME EVENING.

13. CONGRESSMAN WENT TO STADIUM ACCOMPANIED BY EMBOFF AND ASISTANTS COLLINS AND VITALE. HE WAS MET THERE BY CBS CORRESPONDENT FRANK MANITZAS AND MRS. RICHARD FAGIN.
WILLOUGHBY AND COMMANDER ESPINEZA WELCOMED GROUP AND STATED THAT CONGRESSMAN AND AMBASSADOR HAD BEE GRANTED PERMISSION TO TOUR STADIUM BY MINISTER. EMBOFF EXPLAINED THAT AMB HAD OTHER COMMITTMENTS AND THAT HE WOULD REPRESENT ME. (IN FACT, NOTHING HAD BEEN MENTIONED BY HARRINGTON OR JUNTA MEMBERS ABOUT MY ACCOMPANYING HIM). ESPINOZA ACCEPTED EMBOFF'S EXPLAINATION AND STATED THAT HE AND CONGRESSMAN COULD BEGIN TOUR.

14. HARRINGTON INSISTED THAT OTHER MEMBERS OF GROUP INCLUDING MARITZAS AND FAGIN ALSO BE ALLOWED TO TAKE TOUR. ESPINOZA RESPONDED THAT HE HAD HIS ORDERS AND HE COULD NOT CHANGE THEM. WILLOUGHBY NOTED THAT MERINO USED SINGULAR YOU (USTED) WHEN GRANTING PERMISSION FOR STADIUM VISIT. HARRINGTON ARGUED THAT COMPLETE FREEDOM GRANTED HIM BY JUNTA MEANT THAT HE HAD RIGHT TO BRING IN WITH HIM WHOMEVER HE WISHED.

15. CONSIDERABLE BACK AND FORTH ENSUED BETWEEN ESPINOZA AND HARRINGTO
N
WITH COLLINS INTERPERTING AND TAKING PART IN CONVERSATION. AT ONE POINT ESPINOZA OFFERED CONGRESSMAN OPPORTUNITY TO PICK ONE INDIVIDUAL (BY INFERENCE NOT NECESSARILY EMBOFF) TO TOUR STADIUM WITH HIM. HOWEVER, HARRINGTONMAINTAINED ORIGINAL POSITION AND DEMANDED THAT ESPINOZA CALL MINISTER OF INTERIOR. ESPINOZA DID SO AND IN A BRIEF CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 SANTIA 05277 280023Z

CONVERSATION GEN. BONILLA REAFFIRMED HIS ORDER.

16 HARRINGTON THEN DEMANDED WE GET "ONE OF THE FELLOWS I SPOKE TO THI
S
AFTERNOON" ON THE PHONE. EMBOFF THEN CALLED ME AND I SPOKE WITH HARRINGTON, STATED MY BELIEF THAT INVITATION HAD BEEN MEANT FOR HIM ALONE, BUT ACCEDED TO HIS INSISTANCE THAT JUNTA BE CONSULTED. HARRINGTON AND GROUP LEFT STADIUM.

17. LATER SAME EVENING WILLOUGHBY RECONFIRMED TO ME THAT JUNTA'S INVITATION HAD BEEN FOR HARRINGTON AND EMBASSY REPRESENTATIVE. HE EXPLAINED THAT WHEN VISITING PARLIAMENTARIANS FROM OTHER NATIONS HAD WITH OFFICERS OF RESPECTIVE EMBASSIES TOURED STADIUM, THEY HAD NOT BEEN GRANTED PRIVILEGE OF BRINGING ALONG STAFF, FRIENDS OR NEWSMEN. CONSEQUENTLY JUNTA'S POSITION HAD TO REMAIN UNCHANGED SO AS NOT TO GIVE IMPRESSION OF FAVORITISM.
WILLOUGHBY OFFERED TO TAKE COLLINS THROUGH STADIUM ON HIS (WILLOUGHBY
'S)
OWN AUTHORITY.

18. EMBOFF PASSED DECISION TO CONGRESSMAN WHO RESPONDED THROUGH COLLI
NS

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

THAT HE WOULD ACCEPT BUT ON CONDITION THAT I ACCOMPANY HIM. I AGREED
BUT WHEN EMBOFF CALLED NEXT MORNING TO INFORM CONGRESSMAN OF SCHEDULE
OF STADIUM VISIT AND FACT THAT I WOULD ACCOMPANY HE RESPONDED THAT HI
S
SCHEDULE WOULD NOT PERMIT HIM TIME TO VISIT STADIUM.

19. HARRINGTON SUBSTANTIVE CONTACT WITH THE EMBASSY WAS LIMITED BY
HIS EXPRESSED DESIRE TO RELY ON CONTACTS MADE FOR HIM BY COLLINS
AND OTHER INCLUDING HIS LOST MARITZAS.
HE DID, HOWEVER, SPEAK WITH ACTING AID DIRECTOR KESSLER ON MATTERS
RELATING TO COPPER AND DEBT NEGOTIATIONS. ALSO AT HIS REQUEST
EC COUNSELOR HART SET UP MEETINGS WITH CHILEAN ECONOMIST EMILO
SANFUENTES IN HHENT'S OFFICE. HUNT ATTENDED MEETING BUT PRIME
PARTICIPANTS WERE SANFUENTES AND COLLINS CONGRESSMAN MENTIONED
DESIRE TO SPEAK WITH AIRATT CORCORAN AND MILGRP COMMANDER CAPT.
DAVIS. LATTER TRAVELLED FROM VALPARAISO FOR MEETING BUT,
CONGRESSMAN'S SCHEDULE DID NOT ALLOW TIME FOR IT. HARRINGTON
DID NOT OFFER INFORMATION ON CHILEAN HE SPOKE WITH OTHER THAN MENTION
TO ME WHEN I SAW HIM OFF AT AIRPORT SAT PM THAT HE HAD BEEN QUITE
CONFIDENTIAL

IMPRESSED BY CONVERSATION WITH RADOMIRO TOMIC ASSISTANT. ASSISTANT
VITALI DEPARTED WITH CONGRESSMAN. COLLINS SCHEDULED TO LEAVE SUN PM.
DAVIS

CONFIDENTIAL

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 11 MAY 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 27 OCT 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973SANTIA05277
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: 11652 GDS
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: SANTIAGO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731065/abqcehyu.tel
Line Count: 191
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION H
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22 OCT 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <22-Oct-2001 by elbezefj>; APPROVED <06 MAR 2002 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CODEL HARRINGTON
TAGS: OREP, CI
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005